

not capable of finding out your dark and wicked designs?" And Judah, standing up to speak to the rest, said, "What shall we say to my Lord, or how can we clear ourselves? Behold, we are all your slaves; both we, and the man to whom the cup was found." But Joseph answered: "No! God forbid, that I should punish innocent with the guilty! the man who had the cup, I will make a slave; but as for you, ye shall return to your father and families in peace. Then Judah, perceiving an inclination in Joseph's mind to shew mercy, took advantage of the opportunity; and drawing near to him, said, "My Lord, let thy servant speak a word in thy Lord's ear; and let not thine anger burn against thy servant; for thou art great and powerful, and I am but a poor man. Thou didst compel us to bring our younger brother down to Egypt, or else we must have perished for want of food. Now our father had two sons, whom he particularly delighted in; this was one, whom he called Simeon, whose name was Simeon, and was torn from his father's side. Therefore, he set the watch on Benjamin, and refused to let him come with us to Egypt, lest he should befall him. And, indeed, he would let him go, we would break at parting, and he should return without him. We have not our brother Benjamin, he surely die, for his life is at stake! And besides this, I am surety for the lad until I bring him not back to thee. Then let me bear the blame before thee, O my Lord, take my younger brother down to Egypt, or else we must keep me as a bond slave, lest he go with his brethren, and see the evil which shall befall him."